

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

91. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A conjugate, which when introduced into a cell, produces a specific nucleic acid, said conjugate comprising a protein-nucleic acid construct that comprises:

- (i) at least one promoter;
 - (ii) at least one segment of said specific nucleic acid produced by said conjugate comprising a sequence coding for a protein; and
 - (iii) an RNA polymerase₁;
- wherein said RNA polymerase (iii) is covalently linked to the nucleic acid of said protein-nucleic acid construct.

92. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 91, wherein said at least one promoter (i) comprises a cognate promoter for said RNA polymerase (iii).

93. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 91, wherein said protein-nucleic acid construct comprises a double-stranded nucleic acid.

94. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 91, wherein said protein-nucleic acid construct comprises a single-stranded nucleic acid.

95. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 91, wherein said protein-nucleic acid construct comprises a partially single-stranded nucleic acid.

96. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 91, wherein said sequence coding for a protein in said segment (ii) comprises a sequence for said RNA polymerase (iii).

97. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 91, wherein said sequence coding for a protein in said segment (ii) comprises a protein other than said RNA polymerase (iii).

98. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 91, wherein said sequence coding for a protein in said segment (ii) comprises a sequence for said RNA polymerase and a sequence for a protein other than said RNA polymerase.

99. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 91, wherein said sequence coding for a protein in said segment (ii) comprises a sequence for a second RNA polymerase that is different from said RNA polymerase (iii).

100. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 99, further comprising a second promoter for said second RNA polymerase.

101. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 91, wherein said RNA polymerase (iii) comprises T7, T3, SP6 or a combination thereof.

102. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 100, further comprising a sequence for a protein, wherein said protein is transcribed from said second promoter.

Claim 103 (canceled)

104. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 103, wherein said protein-nucleic acid construct comprises at least one chemically modified nucleotide or nucleotide analog.

Claims 105-109 (canceled)

110. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A conjugate, which when introduced into a cell, produces a specific nucleic acid, said conjugate comprising a protein-nucleic acid construct that comprises:

(i) at least one promoter;

(ii) at least one segment of said specific nucleic acid produced by said conjugate comprising a template for transcription; and

(iii) an RNA polymerase;

wherein said RNA polymerase (iii) is covalently linked to the nucleic acid of said protein-nucleic acid construct.

111. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 110, wherein said specific nucleic acid being produced comprises sense RNA, antisense RNA transcripts or a combination of both.

112. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 111, wherein said sense RNA codes for a protein.

113. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 112, wherein said protein coding sense RNA codes for said RNA polymerase (iii).

114. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 112, wherein said protein coding sense RNA codes for a protein other than said RNA polymerase (iii).

115. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 112, wherein said protein coding sense RNA codes for said RNA polymerase (iii) and a protein other than said RNA polymerase (iii).

116. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 112, wherein said protein coding sense RNA comprises a sequence for a second RNA polymerase that is different from said RNA polymerase (iii).

117. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 116, further comprising a second promoter for said second RNA polymerase.

118. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 117, further comprising a sequence for a protein, wherein said protein is transcribed from said second promoter.

119. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A conjugate, which when introduced in a cell, produces a specific nucleic acid, said conjugate comprising a protein-nucleic acid construct that comprises:

(i) at least one promoter;

(ii) at least one single-stranded segment comprising a sequence complementary to a primer present in said cell; and

(iii) an RNA polymerase;

wherein said RNA polymerase (iii) is covalently linked to the nucleic acid of said protein-nucleic acid construct.

Claims 120-121 (canceled)

122. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 119, wherein said primer comprises RNA.

123. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The conjugate of claim 119, wherein said sequence codes for a protein.